

## Message Text

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65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 IO-10 /073 W

----- 114247

R 181002Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5466

INFO AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 8609

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR YE ET

SUBJECT: PLIGHT OF YEMENI COMMUNITY IN ETHIOPIA

REF: (A) SANA 1646; (B) STATE 167757

1. ON JULY 17, YAR COUNSELOR ZABARA MADE RETURN COURTESY CALL ON EMBOFF. PLIGHT OF THE YEMENI COMMUNITY IN ETHIOPIA WAS THE MAJOR SUBJECT OF THE DISCUSSION

2. ZABARA STATED THAT YEMENI CITIZENS HAVE SUFFERED GREATLY IN ERITREA AND CONFIDED "FOR US INFORMATION ONLY" THAT FIVE FYEMENIS HAD BEEN KILLED BY ETHIOPIAN TROOPS IN ERITREAN CITY OF AGORDAT, AND 450 HAD FLED OM HAJER TO SUDAN IN APRIL. YEMENI AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN PRESSING EPMG FOR COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY LOST BY 450 WITHOUT SUCCESS. HE ADDED THAT YEMENIS HAD BEEN CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF ARMY OPERATIONS AGAINST THE AFAR IN AND AROUND ASSAITA IN JUNE. FIVE YEMENIS WERE KILLED AT THAT TIME BY EPMG TROOPS. YEMENI AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN TRYING TO VISIT ASSAITA, BUT HAS BEEN STALLED BY EPMG, AND RECENTLY FLATLY REFUSED PERMISSION.

3. IN REPLY TO EMBOFF'S QUESTION, ZABARA SAID NO YEMENIS IN OR AROUND ADDIS ABABA HAD BEEN ATTACKED OR KILLED.

4. DURING CONVESATION WITH ZABARA, EMBOFF EXPRESSED SYMPATHY  
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FOR YEMENI PLIGHT HERE. HOWEVER, YEMENIS. WHO USED TO TOTAL

40,000 NOW DOWN TO 15,000 ACCORDING TO YEMENI AMBASSADOR, CONSTITUTE LARGE FOREIGN COMMUNITY IN ETHIOPIA. AS ARABS AND PETTY TRADERS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, WE MAY EXPECT THEM TO HAVE CONTINUING DIFFICULTIES. ALLEGIANCE ASSERTED BY MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY TO YARG AND PDRY VARIES WITH INTERLOCTOR ALTHOUGH SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY BELIEVED BE NORTHERNERS. VIEW FOREGOING EMBASSY IS EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO GET INVOLVED IN ETHIOPIAN-YEMENI BILATERAL PROBLEMS. GIVEN NATURE OF PROBLEM, US INTERVENTION WITH EPMG UNLIKELY TO BE FHELPFUL AND COULD EVEN PROVE COUNTER- PRODUCTIVE. IN LIGHT OUR ASSESSMENT AND FACT ZABARA ASKED EMBASSY'S ADVICE, NOT INTERVENTION, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS WE LIMIT OUR ACTIONS TO SYMPATHY EXPRESSED ABOVE. IN CONVERSATION TODAY WITH AMBASSADOR HUMMEL, YEMENI AMBASSADOR DID NOT ASK FOR USG SUPPORT.  
HUMMEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMUNITY RELATIONS, DISCRIMINATION, CIVIL DISORDERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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